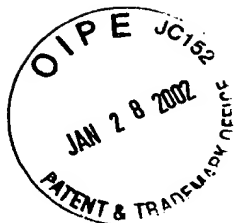


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Reply Under 37 CFR 1.116 – Expedited Procedure – Technology Center 1733



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on 6 Nov 2001

Michael P. Hayden 48,433
Name of Agent Registration No.

Michael P. Hayden
Signature of Agent

Entered Per RCE

Case 7040R

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

JOHNSON, *ET AL.*

Serial No. 09/459,138

Filed: December 10, 1999

For: METHOD FOR MAKING A SEAM FOR USE IN DISPOSABLE ARTICLES

::

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:: Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Michael A. Tolin

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Final Office Action of 6 September 2001, applicants' agent hereby respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks, submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.116.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete and replace the designated paragraph with the replacement paragraph in clean form herewith submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(ii), on a separate page. Another version of the replacement paragraph marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version is also herewith submitted on a separate page in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(iii).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the designated claims to read as herewith submitted on a separate page in clean form in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c)(i). A version of the amended claims marked up to show changes is also herewith submitted on a separate page in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Please cancel Claims ~~17~~ through ~~20~~. Upon this cancellation, Claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 12 remain pending, Claims 6 and 13 through 16 having previously been allowed.

AF/1700
#12/B
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7/15/02

Do Not Enter
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TC 1700